

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 IO-04 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /064 W

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R 251241Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7691

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS ROME 14803

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF, VT, SGEN

SUBJ: NEW VATICAN COMMISSION FOR ISLAM

AS A MAJOR STEP IN THE DEVELOPING DIALOGUE BETWEEN CATHOLICS AND MOSLEMS, POPE PAUL ANNOUNCED OCT. 22 THE CREATION OF AN AUTONOMOUS COMMISSION FOR RELATIONS WITH ISLAM WITHIN THE VATICAN SECRETARIAT FOR NON-CHRISTIANS. THIS CAPS A LONG SERIES OF CONTACTS BETWEEN THE TWO RELIGIONS WHICH BEGAN WITH THE DECLARATION "NOSTRA AETATE" OF THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL IN 1965.

AS A GESTURE TOWARD IMPROVING RELATIONS, SECRETARIAT FOR NON-CHRISTIANS HAS, SINCE ITS INCEPTION, ISSUED FORMAL GOOD WISHES TO MOSLEM WORLD FOR RAMADAN. 1974 HAS SEEN GREAT INTENSIFICATION OF RELIGIOUS CONTACTS BY CATHOLIC CHURCH WITH MOSLEMS, INCLUDING THE EPOCHAL VISIT OF CARDINAL SERGIO PIGNEDOLI, PRESIDENT OF SECRETARIAT FOR NON-CHRISTIANS, TO SAUDI ARABIA, CHRISTIAN-ISLAMIC MEETING AT BAMAKO ORGANIZED BY THE SECRETARIAT, CARDINAL PIGNEDOLI'S VISIT TO CAIRO IN SEPTEMBER AS GUEST OF SUPREME COUNCIL FOR ISLAMIC AFFAIRS, AND THE PRESENT VISIT TO

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ROME OF THE GREAT ULEMAS OF SAUDI ARABIA.VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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